

February 4, 1941, letter from Alan Lomax to H.M. Bond

Library of Congress Washington, D. C. February 4, 1941

Mr. H. M. Bond, President The Fort Valley State College Fort Valley, Georgia

Dear Mr. Bond:

I have just had the opportunity to read over your letter carefully—this month of January has been so busy that I have neglected all my correspondence— and I find that I should like to come to your festival very much indeed and bring with me a recording machine to take down the music of all the participants. Let me hear from you as soon as you can about whether it will be possible to record continuously throughout the festival and I will recommend that the Library of Congress send me down for the occasion.

It may be possible, too, for my father, John Lomax, to come too. I suggest that you also invite Sterling Brown of Howard University, whom you certainly know; Charles Seeger, Pan-American Union, Washington, D.C.; Dr. Hodgson of the University of Georgia, who has recently expressed an interest in collecting folk songs in Georgia on a statewide basis; Dr. Howard Odom and Dr. Guy Johnson of the University of North Carolina; and Zora Neale Hurston, who can be reached through her publisher, Lippincott, in Philadelphia.

I am not completely certain that I can come because my present schedule at the Library is so full but this corroborating letter of yours would make it more certain, I believe. Thanks very much for the invitation.

Sincerely yours, Alan Lomax Assistant in charge of the Archive of American Folk Song

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